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EXAMINER
DWIVEDI, MAHESH H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2168	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/516,881	NAKO, KAZUYUKI
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mahesh H. Dwivedi	2168	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 December 2007</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-16 and 18</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-16 and 18</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>03 December 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☒ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1.   Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Response to Amendment

2.   Receipt of Applicant's Amendment, filed on 12/26/2007, is acknowledged. The amendment includes the addition of claims 14-18, the amending of claims 1, 3-12, and the cancellation of claim 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3.   The rejections raised in the office action mailed on 08/22/2007 have been overcome by applicant's amendments received on 12/26/2007.

Claim Objections

4.   Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: The phrase "a display output portion for outputting said **predetermined kind of**" should be changed to a display output portion for outputting said **predetermined kind of character**". Appropriate correction is required.

       Claims 3-5, and 9-14 are objected to for incorporating the deficiencies of independent claim 1.

5.   The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

       Misnumbered claim 18 has been renumbered 17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 1-2, 6-8, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
unpatentable over **Hyon** (U.S. PGPUB 2002/0077135) in view of **Baker** (U.S. Patent
6,546,417).

8.   Regarding claim 1, **Hyon** teaches a display device comprising:

A) a first storage portion for storing beforehand a character code for specifying each of
said predetermined kind of character (Paragraphs 23, and 41-42, Figure 4);

B) a second storage portion for storing an image code for specifying said registered
image and non-standardized image data corresponding to said image code in a
correlated manner, said registered image being generated by a user (Paragraphs 23,
25, and 44, Figure 2);

C) a display output portion for outputting said predetermined kind of and said registered
image (Paragraph 21, Figure 2); and

D) a display control portion for causing said display output portion to output
corresponding said predetermined kind of character and said registered image both
belonging to an identical sentence based on display data containing a series of said
character code, text attribute data, and said image code (Paragraphs 21 and 41-42);
and

F) so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said
predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence (Paragraphs 21, and
41-42, Figure 4)

        The examiner notes that **Hyon** teaches **"a first storage portion for storing
beforehand a character code for specifying each of said predetermined kind of
character"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM
(Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The
storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of
emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present
invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate
selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23) and "the user can input a text including typical

characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"a second storage portion for storing <u>an image</u> code for specifying said <u>registered</u> image and non-standardized image data corresponding to said image code in a correlated manner, said <u>registered</u> image being generated by a user"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23), "storage 18 stores oriental or occidental emoticons according to the cultural area of a user" (Paragraph 25), and "A plurality of emoticons are pre-stored in a mobile terminal so that a user easily select an intended emoticon in the present invention. In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet. The user can change and edit the emoticons stored in the mobile terminal" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that it is clear that the emoticons which are edited, changed, and user-generated must be stored in the RAM of storage 18 since items stored in RAM can be written to whereas items stored in ROM cannot be written (i.e. are Read-Only). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"a display output portion for outputting said <u>predetermined kind of</u> and said <u>registered</u> image"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"a display control portion for causing said display output portion to output corresponding said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character and said <u>registered image both belonging to an identical sentence</u> based on display data containing a series of said character code, text attribute data, and said image**

code" as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon…the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that it is common knowledge that when text messages are received via a device, the entire message is displayed at once. The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon…the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that display 8 in Figure 4 depicts an emoticon in between text.

     Hyon does not explicitly teach:

E) said display control portion having image transforming means for transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data;

G) wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text; and

H) said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data.

Baker, however, teaches **"said display control portion having image transforming means for transforming said _registered_ image to be displayed according to said text attribute data"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), **"wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), and **"said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching Baker's would have allowed Hyon's to provide a method for allowing for scalable icons to accompany texts with specified and varied fonts in order to easily associate an icon to a particular sentence, as noted by **Baker** (Column 5, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 6, **Hyon** teaches a method comprising:

A) storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying said <u>registered</u> image and <u>registered</u> image

data corresponding to said image code (Paragraphs 23, 25, and 44, Figure 2);

B) said <u>registered</u> image being generated by a user and stored in a storage portion

different from a storage portion of storing the <u>predetermined kind of</u> character

(Paragraphs 23 and 44);

D) displaying said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character and said <u>registered</u> image

simultaneously based on said transformed <u>registered</u> image (Paragraphs 21 and 41-

42);

E) <u>so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said</u>

<u>predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence</u> (Paragraphs 21, 41-

42, Figure 4).

The examiner notes that **Hyon** teaches **"storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying**

said <u>registered</u> image and <u>registered</u> image data corresponding to said image

code" as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM

(Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The

storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of

emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present

invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate

selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23), "storage 18 stores oriental or occidental

emoticons according to the cultural area of a user" (Paragraph 25), and "A plurality of

emoticons are pre-stored in a mobile terminal so that a user easily select an intended

emoticon in the present invention. In another embodiment, the user can add

hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be

stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station

and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet. The user can change and

edit the emoticons stored in the mobile terminal" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further

notes that **Hyon** teaches **"said <u>registered</u> image being generated by a user and**

stored in a storage portion different from a storage portion of storing the

<u>predetermined kind of</u> character" as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read

Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23) and "In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station, and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that it is clear that the emoticons which are edited, changed, and user-generated must be stored in the RAM of storage 18 since items stored in RAM can be written to whereas items stored in ROM cannot be written (i.e. are Read-Only). The examiner further notes that items which are clearly not edited/changed/manipulated (i.e. text characters) would be stored in ROM of storage 18. Moreover, the examiner further wishes to state that it is well known that text characters from a particular font are stored in ROM and not RAM (see cited reference of **Hersum** (see column 4, lines 55-67 for reference). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"displaying said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character and said <u>registered</u> image simultaneously based on said transformed <u>registered</u> image"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon...the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that it is common knowledge that when text

messages are received via a device, the entire message is displayed at once. The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon...the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that display 8 in Figure 4 depicts an emoticon in between text.

Hyon does not explicitly teach:

C) with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data;

F) <u>wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text</u>; and

G) <u>said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data.</u>

Baker, however, teaches **"with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then

scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), "**wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text**" as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided…at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), and "**said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data**" as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided…at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Baker's** would have allowed **Hyon's** to provide a method for allowing for scalable icons to accompany texts with specified and varied fonts in order to easily associate an icon to a particular sentence, as noted by **Baker** (Column 5, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 7, **Hyon** teaches a viewer program comprising:
A) storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying said <u>registered</u> image and <u>registered</u> image data corresponding to said image code (Paragraphs 23, 25, and 44, Figure 2);
B) said <u>registered</u> image being generated by a user and stored in a storage portion different from a storage portion of storing the <u>predetermined kind of</u> character (Paragraphs 23 and 44);
D) displaying said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character and said <u>registered</u> image simultaneously based on said transformed <u>registered</u> image (Paragraphs 21 and 41-42);

E) <u>so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said</u> <u>predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence</u> (Paragraphs 21, 41-42, Figure 4).

The examiner notes that **Hyon** teaches **"storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying said** <u>**registered**</u> **image and** <u>**registered**</u> **image data corresponding to said image code"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23), "storage 18 stores oriental or occidental emoticons according to the cultural area of a user" (Paragraph 25), and "A plurality of emoticons are pre-stored in a mobile terminal so that a user easily select an intended emoticon in the present invention. In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet. The user can change and edit the emoticons stored in the mobile terminal" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"said** <u>**registered**</u> **image being generated by a user and stored in a storage portion different from a storage portion of storing the** <u>**predetermined kind of**</u> **character"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23) and "In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station, and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that it is

clear that the emoticons which are edited, changed, and user-generated must be stored in the RAM of storage 18 since items stored in RAM can be written to whereas items stored in ROM cannot be written (i.e. are Read-Only). The examiner further notes that items which are clearly not edited/changed/manipulated (i.e. text characters) would be stored in ROM of storage 18. Moreover, the examiner further wishes to state that it is well known that text characters from a particular font are stored in ROM and not RAM (see cited reference of **Hersum** (see column 4, lines 55-67 for reference). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"displaying said predetermined kind of character and said registered image simultaneously based on said transformed registered image"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon...the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that it is common knowledge that when text messages are received via a device, the entire message is displayed at once. The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in

a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon...the mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that display 8 in Figure 4 depicts an emoticon in between text.

Hyon does not explicitly teach:

C) with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data;

F) <u>wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text</u>; and

G) <u>said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data</u>.

Baker, however, teaches **"with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), **"<u>wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text</u>"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), and **"<u>said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data</u>"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon

graphics are also provided...at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Baker's** would have allowed **Hyon's** to provide a method for allowing for scalable icons to accompany texts with specified and varied fonts in order to easily associate an icon to a particular sentence, as noted by **Baker** (Column 5, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 8, **Hyon** teaches a computer readable recording medium comprising:

A) storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying said <u>registered</u> image and <u>registered</u> image data corresponding to said image code (Paragraphs 23, 25, and 44, Figure 2);

B) said <u>registered</u> image being generated by a user and stored in a storage portion different from a storage portion of storing the <u>predetermined kind of</u> character (Paragraphs 23 and 44);

D) displaying said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character and said <u>registered</u> image simultaneously based on said transformed <u>registered</u> image (Paragraphs 21 and 41-42);

E) <u>so that said registered image is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said predetermined kind of character in a line of said identical sentence</u> (Paragraphs 21, 41-42, Figure 4).

The examiner notes that **Hyon** teaches **"storing <u>an</u> image code for specifying said <u>registered</u> image and <u>registered</u> image data corresponding to said image code"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons"

(Paragraph 23), "storage 18 stores oriental or occidental emoticons according to the cultural area of a user" (Paragraph 25), and "A plurality of emoticons are pre-stored in a mobile terminal so that a user easily select an intended emoticon in the present invention. In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet. The user can change and edit the emoticons stored in the mobile terminal" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"said registered image being generated by a user and stored in a storage portion different from a storage portion of storing the predetermined kind of character"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23) and "In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station, and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that it is clear that the emoticons which are edited, changed, and user-generated must be stored in the RAM of storage 18 since items stored in RAM can be written to whereas items stored in ROM cannot be written (i.e. are Read-Only). The examiner further notes that items which are clearly not edited/changed/manipulated (i.e. text characters) would be stored in ROM of storage 18. Moreover, the examiner further wishes to state that it is well known that text characters from a particular font are stored in ROM and not RAM (see cited reference of **Hersum** (see column 4, lines 55-67 for reference). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"displaying said predetermined kind of character and said registered image simultaneously based on said transformed registered image"** as "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated

in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16"
(Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right
directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7.
When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected
emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user
can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the
range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and
"After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit
the SMS message including the emoticon...the mobile terminal transmits the stored
message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that it is common knowledge
that when text messages are received via a device, the entire message is displayed at
once. The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches "**so that said registered image
is sandwiched between two parts of said text of said predetermined kind of
character in a line of said identical sentence**" as "a display 16 outputs display data
and text messages generated in the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)
can be used as the display 16" (Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display
6 by manipulating a left/right directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile"
are displayed in a display 7. When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in
the display 7, the selected emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in
a display 8. Then, the user can input a text including typical characters, special
characters, or emoticons within the range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing
input modes" (Paragraph 41), and "After an intended text is completed, the user
instructs the mobile terminal to transmit the SMS message including the emoticon...the
mobile terminal transmits the stored message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further
notes that display 8 in Figure 4 depicts an emoticon in between text.

     Hyon does not explicitly teach:

C) with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute
data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed
according to said text attribute data;

F) <u>wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text</u>; and

G) <u>said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data</u>.

Baker, however, teaches **"with respect to display data containing a series of a character code, text attribute data, and said image code, transforming said <u>registered</u> image to be displayed according to said text attribute data"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided…at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), **"<u>wherein said text attribute data contains size attribute data indicating a character size of said text</u>"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided…at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40), and **"<u>said image transforming means that scales up/down said registered image in accordance with said attribute data</u>"** as "in order to accommodate the use of different size fonts in the mailbox display, means for scaling the size of the icon graphics are also provided…at least one image for each icon is stored, the icon most closely matching the point size of the font is chosen and then scaled as needed to better match the font point size" (Column 8, lines 26-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Baker's** would have allowed **Hyon's** to provide a method for allowing for scalable icons to accompany texts with specified and varied fonts in order to easily associate an icon to a particular sentence, as noted by **Baker** (Column 5, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 13, **Hyon** further teaches a display device comprising:

A) wherein the first storage portion is a ROM (Paragraph 23); and

B) the second storage portion is a RAM (Paragraphs 23 and 44).

The examiner notes that **Hyon** teaches **"wherein the first storage portion is a ROM"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23). The examiner further notes that items which are clearly not edited/changed/manipulated (i.e. text characters) would be stored in ROM of storage 18. Moreover, the examiner further wishes to state that it is well known that text characters from a particular font are stored in ROM and not RAM (see cited reference of **Hersum** (see column 4, lines 55-67 for reference). The examiner further notes that **Hyon** teaches **"the second storage portion is a RAM"** as "A storage 18 is comprised of a ROM (Read Only Memory) and a RAM (Random Access Memory) for storing programs and data, and a voice memory. The storage 18 stores an operation program for inputting emoticons and a plurality of emoticons in the form of a bit map according to the embodiment of the present invention. The plurality of emoticons are stored by groups in the storage 18 to facilitate selection of emoticons" (Paragraph 23) and "A plurality of emoticons are pre-stored in a mobile terminal so that a user easily select an intended emoticon in the present invention. In another embodiment, the user can add hieroglyphics to basic emoticons stored by a manufacturer. The hieroglyphics can be stored in three ways: the user directly stores them, receives them from a base station and the stores them, or downloads them from the Internet. The user can change and edit the emoticons stored in the mobile terminal" (Paragraph 44). The examiner further notes that it is clear that the emoticons which are edited, changed, and user-generated must be stored in the RAM of storage 18 since items stored in RAM can be written to whereas items stored in ROM cannot be written (i.e. are Read-Only).

9.　Claims 3-5, 9-12, 14-16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hyon** (U.S. PGPUB 2002/0077135) and in view of **Baker** (U.S. Patent 6,546,417) as applied to claims 1-2, 6-8, and 13 and further in view of **Ostermann et al.** (U.S. Patent 6,990,452).

10.　Regarding claim 3, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:

A) wherein said text attribute data contains color attribute data indicating at least a fore color of a corresponding <u>predetermined kind of</u> character; and

B) said image transforming means converts a color of said <u>registered</u> image according to said color attribute data.

　　　Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said text attribute data contains color attribute data indicating at least a fore color of a corresponding <u>predetermined kind of</u> character"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means. For example, the method may comprise providing the sender an option to assign a color to the at least typed one word such that the chosen emoticon begins to be presented by the animated entity to the recipient at the first typed word with the assigned color and the chosen emoticon presentation by the animated entity ends at the last typed word with the assigned color" (Column 11, lines 43-50) and **"said image transforming means converts a color of said <u>registered</u> image according to said color attribute data"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means. For example, the method may comprise providing the sender an option to assign a color to the at least typed one word such that the chosen emoticon begins to be presented by the animated entity to the recipient at the first typed word with the assigned color and the chosen emoticon presentation by the animated entity ends at the last typed word with the assigned color" (Column 11, lines 43-50).

　　　It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching

Ostermann's would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 4, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:

A) wherein when said <u>registered</u> is a gray image, said image transforming means converts each pixel of said <u>registered</u> image into a color made by mixing the fore color and a back color of said text at a ratio according to a pixel value of said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein when said <u>registered</u> is a gray image, said image transforming means converts each pixel of said <u>registered</u> image into a color made by mixing the fore color and a back color of said text at a ratio according to a pixel value of said <u>predetermined kind of</u> character"** as "The increased intensity of the emoticon may be accomplished by changing the icon from black-on-white background to black-on-colored background (such as red or yellow) where the intensity of the background color reflects the amplitude" (Column 9, lines 43-67) and "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means. For example, the method may comprise providing the sender an option to assign a color to the at least typed one word such that the chosen emoticon begins to be presented by the animated entity to the recipient at the first typed word with the assigned color and the chosen emoticon presentation by the animated entity ends at the last typed word with the assigned color" (Column 11, lines 43-50)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 5, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:

A) wherein said text attribute data contains decoration attribute data indicating a type of a decoration applied to a corresponding <u>predetermined kind of</u> character; and

B) said image transforming means decorates said <u>registered</u> image according to said decoration attribute data.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said text attribute data contains decoration attribute data indicating a type of a decoration applied to a corresponding <u>predetermined kind of</u> character"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon" (Column 11, lines 43-61) and **"said image transforming means decorates said <u>registered</u> image according to said decoration attribute data"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon" (Column 11, lines 43-61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 9, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:

A) wherein said transforming means includes image decoration means for decorating said <u>registered</u> image to provide continuous decoration to both said <u>registered</u> image and neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters adjacent to said <u>registered</u> image according to said decoration attribute data.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said transforming means includes image decoration means for decorating said <u>registered</u> image to provide continuous decoration to both said <u>registered</u> image and neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters adjacent to said <u>registered</u> image according to said decoration attribute data"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon as the animated entity delivers the message. As mentioned above, the highlighting can occur through coloring words, underlining words, or some other means of presenting the emotion" (Column 11, lines 43-61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 10, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:

A) wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image, such that both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters show the said fore and back colors continuously.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image, such that both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters show the said fore and back colors continuously"** as The increased intensity of the emoticon may be accomplished by changing the icon from black-on-white background to black-on-colored background (such as red or yellow) where the intensity of the background color reflects the amplitude" (Column 9, lines 43-67) and "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon as the animated entity delivers the message. As mentioned above, the highlighting can occur through coloring words, underlining words, or some other means of presenting the emotion" (Column 11, lines 43-61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 11, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:
A) wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image to draw a continuous underline below both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image to draw a continuous underline below both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon as the animated entity delivers the message. As mentioned above, the highlighting can occur through coloring words, underlining words, or some other means of presenting the emotion" (Column 11, lines 43-61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claim 12, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device comprising:
A) wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image to draw a continuous cancel line on both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein said image decoration means decorates said <u>registered</u> image to draw a continuous cancel line on both said <u>registered</u> image and said neighboring <u>predetermined kind of</u> characters"** as "The sender can associate typed words with an emoticon by underlining, coloring, highlighting, or by any other means...In this case, in a sentence such as "Hi John, :-) are you pleased that the stock market is up?" the underlining represents the highlighting

wherein the sender chooses to begin the smile at the beginning of the word "are" and to continue the smile through the word "up". The method comprises receiving the indicated duration of the emoticon and presenting the chosen duration of the emoticon as the animated entity delivers the message. As mentioned above, the highlighting can occur through coloring words, underlining words, or some other means of presenting the emotion" (Column 11, lines 43-61).

The examiner notes that it is clear that **Ostermann's** method can use various computer font techniques to apply to sentences with emoticons, such as underlines and highlighters.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching **Ostermann's** would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Regarding claims 14-16, and 18, **Hyon** and **Baker** do not explicitly teach a display device, display method, viewer program, and computer-readable recording medium comprising:
A) wherein the text containing the predetermined kind of character and the registered image is used in a Hyper Text Markup Language document.

Ostermann, however, teaches **"wherein the text containing the predetermined kind of character and the registered image is used in a Hyper Text Markup Language document"** as "FIG. 4(a) illustrates a high-bandwidth architecture 60 associated with the embodiments of the invention. The system 60 delivers a hyper-text mark-up language (HTML) page through the Internet 62 (connected to a web server, not shown but embodied in the Internet 62) to a client application 64. The HTML page (shown by way of example in FIG. 6) enables the sender to create a multi-media message. The client application may be, for example, a web browser such as Microsoft's Internet Explorer.RTM.. Other client applications include e-mail and instant

messaging clients. The sender creates the multi-media message using the HTML page"
(Column 4, lines 53-63).

The examiner notes that it is clear that **Ostermann's** method can use various
computer font techniques to apply to sentences with emoticons, such as underlines and
highlighters.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the
invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because teaching
Ostermann's would have allowed **Hyon's** and **Baker's** to provide a method to allow
the ability to insert a customized emoticon or specified image by a single button click, as
noted by **Ostermann** (Column 3, lines 35-54).

Response to Arguments

11.   Applicant's arguments filed on 12/276/2007 have been fully considered but they
are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on page 11, that **"Hyon such that the size of
emoticons…fails to disclose or suggest "a display control portion…identical
sentence"**. However, the examiner wishes to point to paragraphs 21, and 41-42 of
Hyon which state "a display 16 outputs display data and text messages generated in
the mobile terminal. An LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) can be used as the display 16"
(Paragraph 21), "If the user selects "smile" in the display 6 by manipulating a left/right
directional key, emoticons that belong to the group "smile" are displayed in a display 7.
When the user chooses one of the "smile" emoticons " . " in the display 7, the selected
emoticon is stored as part of the short message as shown in a display 8. Then, the user
can input a text including typical characters, special characters, or emoticons within the
range of a transmittable SMS message, by changing input modes" (Paragraph 41), and
"After an intended text is completed, the user instructs the mobile terminal to transmit
the SMS message including the emoticon…the mobile terminal transmits the stored
message" (Paragraph 42). The examiner further notes that display 8 in Figure 4 depicts
an emoticon in between text of a single sentence.

Conclusion

12.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent 6,987,991 by **Nelson** on 17 January 2006. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-16, and 18 (e.g., methods automatically scale graphics into a text sentence that is sent to another user).

U.S. PGPUB 2002/0120653 by **Kraft et al.** on 29 August 2002. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-16, and 18 (e.g., methods automatically scale graphics into a text sentence that is sent to another user).

U.S. Patent 6,584,479 by **Chang et al.** on 24 June 2003. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-16, and 18 (e.g., methods automatically scale graphics into a text sentence that is sent to another user).

U.S. Patent 6,456,305 by **Qureshi et al.** on 24 September 2002. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-16, and 18 (e.g., methods automatically scale graphics into a text sentence that is sent to another user).

U.S. Patent 5,301,106 by **Hersum** on 05 April 1994. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-16, and 18 (e.g., methods automatically scale graphics into a text sentence that is sent to another user).

13.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahesh Dwivedi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:20 am – 4:40 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached (571) 272-3642. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mahesh Dwivedi
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2168

January 18, 2008

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